



Natural Resources Conservation Service
75 High Street, Room 301
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(304) 284-4839 (Fax)

March 5, 2008

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: 190-8-1

SUBJECT: ECS – Request for Plant Materials for 2008.

Purpose: To solicit requests for field plantings.

Expiration Date: April 30, 2008

DEADLINE: Friday, April 4, 2008

Field plantings of plant materials developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service are established to document the performance of plants that are candidates for release to commercial seed or nursery stock growers or are recent releases. The plantings are planned to gather evidence of performance across a wide range of geographic areas, soils, land uses, and management levels.

The field planting program is a plant evaluation process. To effectively evaluate the material, it must be established properly and uniformly, located precisely on a location map, and evaluated on a regular basis for an extended period of time. Field office personnel should request the material only if they are willing to supervise the planting, map the location of each accession, and evaluate the plantings.

Requests for plant materials for field plantings must be submitted on an ECS-9 Planting Plan for Field Plantings (form must be filled out completely). Attachments to this bulletin provide the information needed to fill out the ECS-9. Please fill in plant names and cultivars, seeding rates and plant spacing, uses of the plant to be evaluated, and the standard of comparison. Site information, including the establishment methods and site history, must be given. Specifications on fertilizer, lime, and mulch are available from technical guide standards and specifications, conservation plant sheets, soil tests, and the Plant Materials Specialist.



Area Plant Materials Representatives (Clay Handley, South Area; Carlos Cole, West Area; and Joe Hatton, East Area) must receive completed planting plans by April 4, 2008. Area Plant Materials Representatives should check the plans for completeness and accuracy, or add the appropriate information and forward the plans to the Plant Materials Center Manager John Vandevender, at P.O. Box 390, Alderson, WV 24910-0390 by April 15, 2008.

KEVIN WICKEY
State Conservationist

Attachments

DIST: 0

PLANT MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR FIELD EVALUATIONS IN 2008 FOR WEST VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE

Arrehenatherum elatius, Tall Oatgrass - The accession 9061649 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for forage production on shallow, acid soils and mine reclamation. At least two acres are required for the field planting: one acre for the oatgrass and one acre for the standard of comparison, which is 'Potomac' orchardgrass. The planting sites should be at least well drained and preferably droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Dactylis glomerata, orchardgrass - The accession 9007238 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for forage production on droughty soils. At least two acres are required for the planting: one for 9007238, and one for 'Potomac', the standard of comparison. The site should at least be well drained and preferably droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Senna hebecarpa, American senna – The accession 9093698 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP and possibly forage for browsing livestock. Field plantings are desired to test the range of adaptability. Approximately 100 square feet is required for the planting. Site conditions may range from poorly drained to droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Liatrix spicata, dense blazing star – The accession 9093699 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP contracts and possibly forage for browsers. Field plantings are desired to determine the area of adaptability. Approximately 100 square feet is required for the planting. Site conditions may range from poorly drained to droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Rudbeckia hirta, blackeyed Susan - The accession 9093700 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP contracts and possibly forage for browsers. Field plantings are desired to determine the area of adaptability. Approximately 100 square feet is required for the planting. Site conditions may range from poorly drained to droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Desmanthus illinoensis, Illinois bundleflower - The accession 9093701 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP contracts and possibly forage for browsers. Field plantings are desired to determine the area of adaptability. Approximately 100 square feet is required for the planting. Site conditions may range from poorly drained to droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Lespedeza virginica, slender lespedeza - The accession 9093702 is a candidate for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP contracts and possibly forage for browsers. Field plantings are desired to determine the area of adaptability. Approximately 100 square feet is required for the planting. Site conditions may range from poorly drained to droughty. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

Castanea dentata, American chestnut – Several accessions are candidates for release at the Appalachian Plant Materials Center for use in WHIP contracts and re-establishment of this important Appalachian forest tree throughout its natural range. The purpose of these field plantings is long term monitoring of the accessions to evaluate their resistance to chestnut blight fungus (*Cryphonectria parasitica*; formerly known as *Endothia parasitica*). Site conditions should be well drained upland non limestone soil types. The planting site should be available for periodic evaluation purposes for at least 15 years from the planting year. A planting will consist of at least 2 accessions with 10 plants per accession. Spacing between plants will be a minimum of 10 feet. The goal is one planting per area in each state.

**PLANTING PLAN FOR FIELD, SPECIAL,
AND INCREASE PLANTINGS**

Purpose of planting _____

Planting Plan No. _____

Plants to be evaluated	Identifying cultivar or number	Seeding or planting rate	Total needed	Supplied by

Standard(s) for comparison

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State _____ F.O. _____ SEC _____ TWP _____ RNG _____

SCD _____ MLRA _____ Date to be planted _____

Size _____ Soils _____
(series) (texture)

Cooperator _____ Address _____

Irrig. _____ Precip. _____ Elev. _____ Slope _____ Exposure _____
(yes or no) (inches) (feet) (percent)

Site history for previous three years:

19__, _____

19__, _____

19__, _____

Method of planting to be used _____

Materials needed	Rate	Total	Materials needed	Rate	Total
Lime			Mulch		
Fertilizer			Other		

Cooperator _____ Date _____ Submitted by _____ Date _____
(signature)

Approved _____ Date _____
(Chairman, District Board)

Approved _____ Date _____
(SRC or PMS)

Location Map

REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS AND COMPLETE CHECKLIST ON BACK OF ORIGINAL

(to be completed when planting form is prepared)

1. Does the cooperator understand the purpose of the planting or practice, as well as the culture and management required for its success? _____
2. Does the site meet the requirements stipulated in the planting guide? _____
 - a. Is it conveniently located? _____
 - b. Is it on a soil identified in the planting guide in the project plan? _____
 - c. If it is to be grazed, is the field a separately fenced unit of adequate size? _____
3. Has the cooperator agreed to establish and manage the planting as stipulated in the planting guide? _____
4. Are planned weed control measures adequate? _____
5. Will the field and equipment be checked before planting? _____
6. Will an NRCS technician help with the planting? _____
7. Will followup assistance be provided? _____
 - a. To obtain adequate weed control? _____
 - b. To obtain evaluations as outlined in the planting guide or in the project plan? _____
8. Has the location map been completed on reverse side? _____
9. Comments - explanations if no answers: _____

(signature and title)

(date)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE: The district conservationist completes the items above the ones on the back of the original. She/He retains the last copy and forwards the other copies for approval. When approved, on the reverse of the form, the plant materials specialist keeps the original and returns the other copies to the district conservationist. The area conservationist can keep a copy if she/he desires. The district conservationist and the plant materials specialist are to file their copies with other records relating to the planting.